

The Copy of a
LETTER
Sent from his Excellencie,
ROBERT
EARLE OF ESSEX;
to **Mr. PYM,**

A Member of the House of Commons.

Also an Order for the printing of **S^r**
Edw. Nicholas his Letter, His Majesties Secretary, to
Sir Will. Boswell his Majesties Resident with the States
of the united Provinces, whereby the notorious falsities of that
Letter may appeare to the world, and how as well forraigne
States as the good people of this Kingdome are misled
and abused by the false informations of the wicked
and malignant Counsellours that are
about his Majestie.

Read the Marginall Notes.

Together with the true Relation of the passages at Sherbourn-
Hill, which have relation to the aforesaid Letters.

Ordered by the **COMMONS**, That this be forthwith Prin-
ted and published.

H. Elvyng, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

London, Printed by *L. N.* for *E. Husbands* and *J. Franck*
and are to be sold at their shops in the Middle-Temple, and
near door to the Kings-head in Fleet-street. 1642.

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ROBERT

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Printed by J. Sturges, at the Bodleian Press, Oxford.

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A Copy of a Letter sent from his

Excellencie **ROBERT** Earle of *Essex*,
to **Mr. P. Y. M.**, a Member of the House
of Commons.

Mr. P. Y. M.,

You will finde in Master Secretarie *Nicholas* Letters, what strange fictions they make concerning this Army, (it is true they did plunder those that were thought Malignant or Papists) but since my coming downe, I heard not the least complaint that way, I have beene in many armies; but never saw any quieter, or freer of disorder. All that I know one souldier (a great many being about him), called to me as I was at *Sir Philip Stapletons* window in the market place, and told me he had not his 3. s. I presently called him up, called for a serjeant; he presently fell upon his knees and asked pardon; at one of the *Portu* company being at the guard that wanted a Captain, demanded of me his *Leivetenant* might be Captaine: I presently commanded him to follow me, which he did, fell upon his knees and asked pardon. They have the Articles read, the Advocate saying at the end, God blesse the King and Parliament; they cryed God blesse the Parliament: I never saw any drunk since my coming hither. And I am as confident as I can be of any worldly thing, if they be payed it will be a brave army, I confesse there is a defect in some Regiments of the Foot officers; the Foot have a generall muster this day.

R. E S S E X.

Sir Edm. Nicholas his Letter to *Sir William Boswell*.

Sir, I wrote to you on Munday before our coming away from *Nottingham*, to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the eleventh Currant, & to give you part of the newes we had then. On Tuesday His Majestie marched with his Banner from

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Nottingham,

Nottingham, with five hundred horse and five Regiments of Foot; and twelve peeces of Artillery: The Trained bands met him at about seven miles hence, five hundred whereof offered themselves to attend his Majestie: And being received are billeted with the Army, and the rest are disarmed. Being arrived here His Majestie understood the newes of a second blow given to the Earle of *Bedford*, by the Lord a Marquesse *Hertfords* forces, whereof two hundred horses and three hundred dragoones; were sent in pursuit of him; and about *Yewell* met with about a like number. Sir *William Balfoures* son in a bravado rode out single from his troope, brandishing his sword, as if he would dare somebody to combat with him: Whereof Colonell *Lunsford* giving notice to young *Stowell*, telling him there was honour for him; He straight made up: *Balfoure* discharged his Pistols at some distance, but *Stowell* reserved his till he might be surer of his marke: Which he did so well, that he fired the others Buffe at his brest; and with a quicke blow with his sword, b made an end of the Duell and his Adversary, and so returned to his Troope full of the Honour he went for. In the encounter of the two horse-bodies; the Marquesse lost fiftene men, and the Earle above an hundred, to whose assistance a body of two thousand Foot appearing, the Marquesse his forces retreated in very good order.

a The falsitie of this Relation is referred to be discovered by the relation of the truth of that proceeding subscribed by the Earle of *Bedford* and other officers that were present at the action, where the shamefull defeat the Marquesse of *Hartfords* forces suffered by a very few of my Lord of *Bedfords* is truly declared.

b When this narration was read concerning Capitaine *Balfour*, the Speaker informed that Capitaine *Balfour* that morning was with him to signe a warrant for Post-horses for him to ride towards *Sherbourn*, and this Relation is so far from truth that yong *Stowell* ranne away, and Capitaine *Balfour* returned after he had chased him victoriously.

Sir *John Byron* with as many Schollers as could get horses, and armes hath left *Oxford* by his Majesties directions, and is marched to *Worcester*, where he is to expect the Kings Orders. Meane while the Universtie is discharged, and each man hath provided for himselfe.

His Majestie removes hence to morrow to *Unester*, whither the Artillery, and Traine with eight hundred Dragoones, and some Foot advanced yesternight, and more of our horse and foot are following this day. Whither we

(32).

shall bend our Course from thence we shall know where His
Majestie now giving out his gifts but overnight. I shall not
now trouble you more, than that our Army is in very good
heart, and the Earle of Essex his men are very mutinous,
saying still that they are all fellow traytors; insomuch as he
stirs not with them out of Northampton. I heare the Par-
liament hath now lately received a ship or two laden with
Armes from Holland, for which I am very sorry; that so ill a
Cause should have any countenance, from so neere Allyes.
I am sorry now to heare that Portsmouth is rendred. I am

Sr,

Derby 15. Sep. 1642. Your affectionate friend
and servant.

Edm: Nicholas.

**A Relation of the Actions of the
PARLIAMENTS Forces, under the Com-
mand of the Earle of Bedford, Generall of the Horse,
against those which came from Sherburne unto Babel-
hill, near unto Terrell, upon Wednesday the tenth
of this instant Sept. 1642.**



Pon Tuesday the sixt of September, the Parliaments Forces did rise from before Sherburne, and went that night unto Terrell, a Towne being foure miles distant from Sherburne; where we lay on Wednesday to refresh our selves, upon which day it pleased God to give us a great taste of his goodnesse, to the great shame and losse of the enemy: About two of the clock in the afternoone there appeared a great body of their horse and foot upon a great hill within a little mile of the Towne called Babel-hill, and so was it truly to them a Babel of Confusion. Upon which we presently put our selves in Array as well as we could, to make good all the out-ways, and guard the Magazine, which to doe we found but very few men, and more Pikemen than Musquetiers, for the Musquetiers found themselves to be most imployed upon all occasions, and therefore they principally shifted away, and we sent out to that side where the enemy appeared, three Troops of horse, and some Musquetiers, they standing still at the top of the hill, braving of us, and calling us Rogues and Round-heads, our men went up the hill to charge them, Captaine Aiscogh one way, Captaine Tomson another way a little after him, and Captain Balfour a third, and our Musquetiers after as fast as we could; Aiscogh came up to them first, and charged one of the Troops through and through, and charged the second, but then was glad to wheel.

wheel about, by that time *Tenison* came in to him, and upon the sight of him all the enemies horse began to shoo a little, and our two Troops coming to charge, they turned and ran away, disbanded and routed, and ours followed upon the execution, and killed many of them, they think about eighteen or twenty, some very well habited, who seemed to be persons of qualitie, and their foot who had played upon our horse and foot coming up the hill, were left to our mercy, our foot and horse killing them, and they running away like dogs. He that commanded them was one *Barnfield* a Sergeant Major, who is taken prisoner, and with him about twenty of his own Soldiers, the rest that commanded the foot are beleaved to be slain; amongst them one *Hussey* a Captain, for his Commission was found in his Pocket, himself clad in plash, *Balfours* troop was forced to fetch a great compass, for it is a very high hill, and ill way, who could not come in soon enough, if the night had not come on and a very darke one, we had made a great execution amongst them, for their whole strength of horse was there, five or six Troops and most of their foot, Sir *Ralph Hepton* was there with his Troop, Captain *Digby*, and Sir *Francis Hawley* with theirs, and the Lord *Paulet*, Sir *Iohn Paffes*, Sir *Iohn Stewell*, Sir *Thomas Lamford*, Colonel *Ashburnham*, Sir *Iohn Barseley*, Colonel *Lawdy*, and Lieutenant Colonel *Lansford* were there: we do verily beleave that some of them are come short of home, for they came in the night before the Moone rose with lanthorns and candles, and fetcht away the bodies of them of qualitie, we onely found the next morning twenty or thirty of our men; there were but five lost in all, and a very few, not above three hurt, all (but one) of the slain, are of Captain *Alscochs* Troop, who hath shewed himself a very valiant yong man; We desire to know what must be done with the prisoners, whom, till we receive order, we will take care shall be safely kept: Thus it hath pleased the good God of Heaven, who is the great God of Battailles to blesse us, whose name we cannot sufficiently magnifie for his goodnesse to us, bringing on the Enemy in their great jollity and

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